

# WILDWOODS 501(c)(3)

The Northland's regional wildlife rehabilitation facility



## Dear Wildwoods Friends and Family,

What a year we had in 2022! Thank YOU for being a part of it! Your support meant everything to the animals and humans alike who benefited from our work. We admitted 945 animals representing 109 species, and provided support to 2,734 people.

#### Our Work in 2022

In addition to animals and people served, we have several important highlights to share:

- We received our general permit which allows us to rehabilitate all injured and orphaned animals, including adults.
- We celebrated our **Sweet 16 anniversary** with more than 150 of you joining us!
- We hired a second **Certified Veterinary Technician**; we now have an in-house CVT and a remote CVT.
- We doubled the size of our outdoor pre-release conditioning area the last stop for animals in our care before they are returned to the wild.

These successes helped to temper the difficulties we faced with addressing bird flu. We expected that we would be dealing with **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)** for part of our 2022 season, but the fact is, we are still dealing with it, and will be doing so throughout 2023.

Our preparation for this disease has been thorough. Last year we:

- Ensured that we would be able to take in animals that are susceptible to HPAI.
- Created strict biosecurity protocols for safely handling susceptible species with the support of The Raptor Center, Partners for Wildlife, and the Minnesota Department of Health.
- Turned our basement into a quarantine room so that we can safely admit susceptible species without endangering other animals in our care.

Looking forward, we will try to expand our waterfowl room with the hope that we will be able to accept additional species this year that we could not accept last year. While this disease remains fluid, our priority is to do everything that we can to support the animals that need care.

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Dear Wildwoods Friends and Family continued from previous page

### **Our Community**

Wildwoods cannot exist without our community. Please look at our financials in this report to see just how you fit in. Individual donors are responsible for 70 percent of our revenue. Each dollar that you put into an envelope, leave in our mailbox, or donate online makes up a portion of that 70 percent. Your dollars, words of encouragement, volunteer hours, care for the animals, and spreading the word on how to share space with nature and her wildlife are inextricably linked to our successes here at Wildwoods.

I continue to be impressed by our staff, our volunteers, and our community that come together to support and guide our work as we care for the animals that share this world with us. The continued presence of <a href="HPAI">HPAI</a> and <a href="inflation">inflation</a> are impacting our finances, and we ask you to <a href="consider">consider</a> increasing your support as we navigate these challenges, all the while caring for increasing numbers of animals.

Please support us in our efforts so that we can continue to be here for you, and for the animals that enrich our lives.

Kind regards,

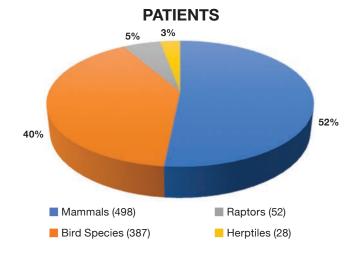
Jessica LaBumbard Executive Director



# **2022 Stats**

#### **Animals Served**

In 2022, we admitted **965** animal patients from **109** species. The eastern cottontail rabbit topped the list (260) followed by the rock pigeon (113), eastern gray squirrel (68), and the white-footed mouse (60). The list continues with numerous raptor species, a long-tailed weasel, fawns, a coyote, bobcats, ruby-throated hummingbirds, American robins, western painted turtles, and many others (see page 4 for a complete species list)!

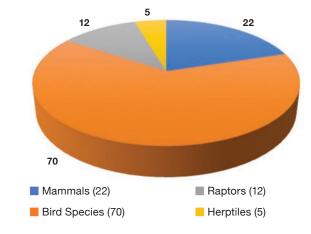


### **People Served**

Wildwoods served 2,734 people in 2022:

- 765 people brought in animals for care.
- 1,452 people called with animal concerns and questions, with most calls resulting in the animal being left safely in place.
- 517 people participated in our educational programs.

#### NUMBER OF SPECIES BY ANIMAL GROUPS



# **Animal Stories**

### **Bald Eagle**



Public education on the impact of lead ammunition on wildlife is increasing, and more efforts are being made to outlaw lead ammunition and lures because of the devastating impact they have on animals. Highly unfortunately, we see our fair share of animals suffering from lead poisoning.

This beautiful bald eagle spent four days with us in February 2022, and his ordeal with lead poisoning is especially poignant. This eagle was banded in Wisconsin in June of 1989 before he could fly. This means that at the time we received him at Wildwoods, he was 32-33 years old.

This gorgeous bird was able to take to the skies for 33 years, seeing things that we can only imagine. Watching the world change during his lifetime with development and human encroachment on his wild home. How terribly sad that at this stage in his life, he contracted lead poisoning. There is no way we can make up for the injury that we have caused, but we can change the future for these animals by refusing to accept their injuries as collateral damage to our activities and by demanding change.

### **Common Redpolls**

Every year we receive birds that are victims of window strikes. What was surprising in 2022 was that 13 of our window strike cases were common redpolls. Common redpolls are a



species of finch that spend most of the year in the arctic and migrate south in the winter. How far south they migrate is determined by that year's seed crop. If less food is available, they fly farther south and we see an irruption, a sudden change in the population density of a species, usually occurring over a 2-year cycle. You can help common redpolls and other bird species migrate by preventing window strikes. On busy migration days, draw down your blinds to make your windows more visible, buy patterned window adhesives, or learn how to make your own. Another easy step you can take during migration season is to turn your outdoor lights off after dark!

### Long-tailed Weasel



We're always prepared for some jailbreaks from animals in our care. After all, who wants to stay inside when they could be out romping in the woods? One of our most memorable escapees last year was a long-tailed weasel brought to us in July by a woman who found it caught up in her garden netting. It took some work, but with patience and a steady hand, we freed her from the netting – upon which time she immediately bolted and gave us the runaround, hiding behind kennels, jumping at the walls, and outsmarting our attempts at recapture. When we eventually caught her, we let her rest before doing an exam. Once we determined she was healthy and uninjured, this feisty long-tailed weasel was transported back to the area where she was found and released, happily, into the wild.

# **Species List**

## 109 Species admitted to Wildwoods in 2022

#### BIRDS

American Bittern

American Crow

American Goldfinch

American Redstart

American Robin

American

Woodcock

Bald Eagle

Barred Owl

Belted

Kingfisher

Blackburnian

Warbler

Black-capped Chickadee

Blue Jay

**Bohemian Waxwing** 

Broad-winged Hawk

Brown-headed Cowbird

Canada Goose

Canada Warbler

Cedar Waxwing

Chimney Swift

Chipping Sparrow

Common Grackle

Common Loon

Common Nighthawk

Common Raven

Common Redpoll

Common Yellowthroat

Cooper's Hawk

Dark-eyed Junco

Downy

Woodpecker

Eastern Kingbird

European Starling

Flycatcher sp

Fox Sparrow

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Grav Catbird

Great Blue Heron

Great Horned Owl

Hairy Woodpecker

Hermit Thrush

Herring Gull

Hooded Merganser

House Sparrow

House Wren

Long-eared

Owl

Mallard

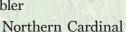
Merlin

Mourning

Dove

Nashville

Warbler



Northern Flicker

Northern Parula

Northern Saw-whet

Owl

Osprey

Ovenbird

Palm Warbler

Pileated Woodpecker

Pine Grosbeak

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Red-eyed Vireo

Red-tailed Hawk

Red-winged Blackbird

Ring-billed Gull

Rock Pigeon

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Ruby-throated

Hummingbird

Ruffed Grouse

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Snowy Owl

Song Sparrow

Sora

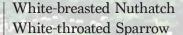
Swainson's Thrush

Tennessee Warbler

Tundra Swan

Veery

Warbler



Wilson's Snipe

Wood Duck

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Yellow-rumped Warbler

### **HERPTILES**

(Reptiles and Amphibians)

American Toad

Common

Garter Snake

Common Snapping

Snapping Turtle

Red-bellied

Snake

Western Painted Turtle



Big Brown Bat

Bobcat

Common Muskrat

Covote

Eastern Chipmunk

Eastern Cottontail

Eastern Gray Squirrel

Franklin's Ground Squirrel

House Mouse

Little Brown Bat

Long-tailed Weasel

Meadow Vole

North American Porcupine

Northern Flying Squirrel

Raccoon

Red Squirrel

Silver-haired Bat

Snowshoe Hare

Southern Flying

Squirrel

White-footed

Deermouse

White-tailed

Deer

Woodchuck





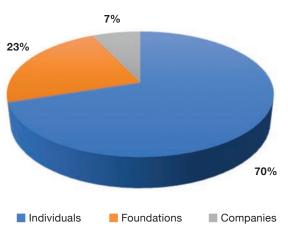


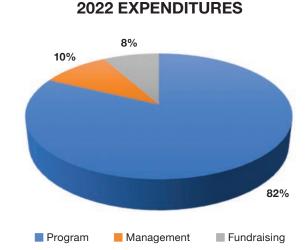
# 2022 Financials

January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

Revenue: \$181,696 Expenses: \$190,557

#### **2022 DONATIONS BY SOURCE**





# **Baby Shower 2023!**

It is time for our annual baby shower as we prepare for the arrival of spring babies. Please visit our website at <a href="https://wildwoodsrehab.org/support-wildwoods/donate-items/">https://wildwoodsrehab.org/support-wildwoods/donate-items/</a> to find the link to our baby registry.

### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

There are several things you can do to support our work!

- Consider becoming a Legacy Donor!
  Include Wildwoods in your will or estate plan.
  Contact us at jessica@wildwoodsrehab.org for more information.
- Make a donation using the enclosed envelope!
   Your funds go a long way to helping us provide this care and support to our local wildlife.
- Save those aluminum cans!
  You can drop them off at Wildwoods, B&B Market in Cloquet, or Cloquet
  Riverside Recycling. Proceeds from these cans benefit Wildwoods!
- We are always looking for transport volunteers. Let us know if you can give a lift to a sick or injured animal that needs to go to another rehabber.
- Order some Wildwoods swag here: https://wildwoods.itemorder.com/sale. A portion of the proceeds goes to us.











Wildwoods 4009 W. Arrowhead Rd Duluth, MN 55811

## Your support makes our work possible!

Donate online at www.wildwoodsrehab.org/donate or use the enclosed envelope.



that accepts orphaned, injured, and sick wildlife.

We rehabilitate orphaned wildlife and return them to the wild while providing emergency stabilization and transfer of injured and sick wildlife to other rehabilitation centers in the state.

Open 365 days a year 9 am - 5 pm (By scheduled drop off only)

4009 W. Arrowhead Rd **Duluth, MN 55811** 218-491-3604 www.wildwoodsrehab.org

### Thank you to our donors for making 2022 a success!

FOUNDATIONS, COMPANIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS DONATING \$500+

**Cloquet Riverside Recycling Duluth Family Sauna** Four Cedars Environmental Fund of the **Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation** Friends of Sax Zim Bog **Irving Community Association** Minnesota Locksmith, LLC **Minnesota Power Foundation** Miracle Eleven, Inc **Partners 4 Wildlife United Northern Sportsmen** 

And a heartfelt thanks to the more than 650 individuals who have donated to us!







